

**Abstract**

The invention relates to a method of identifying N-terminal proBNP in a sample with at least two antibodies that detect different epitopes of the N-terminal proBNP. The method is used to differentiate or classify samples of healthy individuals and samples of patients of NYHA classes I to IV. The invention further relates to recombinant N-terminal proBNP, its use as standard in a method of identifying N-terminal proBNP, to antibodies that detect recombinant N-terminal proBNP and to their production.

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